

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying field resistance of a rice plant to rice blast, the method comprising the steps of:

extracting genomic DNA from the rice plant; and

detecting the presence or absence of the Owarihatamochi allele of the DNA marker G271 in the genomic DNA by RFLP or CAPS analysis; ~~and, thereby~~

determining the presence or absence of field resistance based on the presence or absence of the Owarihatamochi allele of the DNA marker G271 in the genomic DNA.

2-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A method for breeding a rice variety having field resistance to rice blast, the method comprising the steps of:

crossing a first rice variety having field resistance to rice blast with a second rice variety lacking the field resistance to rice blast so as to obtain first generation rice varieties;

extracting genomic DNA from each of the first generation rice varieties or progeny thereof;

detecting the presence of the Owarihatamochi allele of the DNA marker G271 in the genomic DNA by RFLP or CAPS analysis, thereby determining the presence or absence of field resistance based on the presence or absence of the Owarihatamochi allele of the DNA marker G271 in the genomic DNA; and

selecting an individual having field resistance.

5-6. (Canceled)

7. (New) A method for breeding a rice variety having field resistance to rice blast, the method comprising the steps of:

crossing a first rice variety having field resistance to rice blast with a second rice variety lacking the field resistance to rice blast so as to obtain first generation rice varieties;

extracting genomic DNA from each of the first generation rice varieties or progeny thereof;

detecting the presence of the Owarihatamochi allele of the DNA marker G271 in the genomic DNA by RFLP or CAPS analysis;

determining the presence or absence of field resistance based on the presence or absence of the Owarihatamochi allele of the DNA marker G271 in the genomic DNA; and

selecting an individual in which field resistance is shown to be present from the first generation rice varieties or the progeny thereof.